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ABSTRACT

Teaching about wetlands fits well into curriculum goals for science, social studies, environmental education, and even English/language arts. Given their numerous ecological values, the history of their losses and the fact that they are a current, often controversial environmental issue, wetlands provide an ideal topic for a variety of disciplines--separate or, ideally, integrated into a comprehensive, interdisciplinary unit. This curriculum guide was developed to provide educators in Washington State with teaching materials on wetlands. It is a collection of information and activities, compiled from a variety of sources, that focuses on wetlands in Washington State: what and where they are, why they are valuable, and how human actions have affected them. While the target age level is grades 4-8, some of the activities have application to a variety of audiences. The guide includes background information for teachers; 15 activities for exploration, problem-solving and creativity; reproducible graphics and activity sheets; and appendixes that offer educational resources; curriculum guidelines; sequencing options; and a list of agencies and private organizations. (CW)

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